



PATENT

Docket No. 1232-4532

#13/c  
12/29

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Hiroyuki SHINBATA  
Serial No.: 09/287,406 ✓ Group Art Unit: 2621  
Filed: April 6, 1999 ✓ Examiner: B. Choobin  
For: **IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD APPARATUS AND  
STORAGE MEDIUM FOR RECOGNITION OF  
IRRADIATION AREA**

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY**

**RECEIVED**

**DEC 12 2002**

Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**Technology Center 2600**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of September 11, 2002, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the following amendments and remarks.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

**Please rewrite the paragraph from page 1, line 6 through page 1, line 9, as follows:**

C1 The present invention relates to an image processing method, an image processing apparatus, and a storage medium using second order differences for recognition of an irradiation field.

Please rewrite the paragraph from page 4, line 21 through page 4, line 23, as follows:

C2 a step of calculating a second order difference value of density values representing the respective areas in the plurality of areas; and

Please rewrite the paragraph from page 6, line 8 through page 6, line 10, as follows: ✓

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